

November 11, 2000

KM

Dear Jane Henney, 9983 '01 FEB 27 A11:54
Commissioner Food & Drug Admin.
Docket # OOP-1211/cpi
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Jane Henney,

Hello. I am writing to ask you to sponsor comprehensive regulation of genetically engineered foods in the next Congress. I am not the type of person who actively participates in the political process; however, I have felt moved to do so after recent observations of the genetically engineered (GE) corn that was supposed to be used as only animal feed turned up on supermarket shelves in processed foods. It's easy to see how such mistakes happen when producers and distributors aren't required to label or track GE foods.

It saddens me that we so often fail to see the "big picture" until it is almost too late... and then we have so damaged our planet or our bodies that we have threatened our very survival. In the case

of GE foods, big profits, power, and control of the worlds seeds through patents owned by a few corporations are all activities that obscure the "big picture", which is that we truly are interconnected and one. The focus by these GE food companies on profits and control is a short term goal that ultimately will harm us all:

- 1) Loss of biodiversity
- 2) genetic "Drift" as pollen of altered plants migrates & mingles with traditional varieties
- 3) Increased allergies + other potential health problems
- 4) greater reliance on chemicals required for GE crops
- 5) Control of the worlds seeds through patents owned by a few corporations.

I urge you to sponsor comprehensive regulation of GE foods in Congress. Thank you.

Very Sincerely,

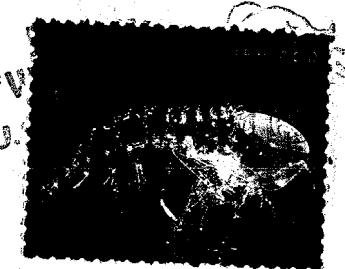
Jane M. Splinter
3016 N. Greenview
Chicago, IL 60657

P.S.

It just occurred to me that labels on products are required to list, for example, if ~~individuals~~ a products contain peanuts or are even processed in a plant that have peanuts on the premises. Peanuts can cause intense allergic reactions in some individuals. I know this since an acquaintance's daughter has almost died from injecting one peanut in a candy bar. If increased allergies are a risk with GE foods, doesn't it seem prudent to have labels listing their existence in food?

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